

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A method for generating a file note for an insurance claim, comprising the steps, executed in a data processing system, of:
 - prefilling a first set of fields with information identifying a file note;
 - obtaining a selection of fields from a user for a second set of fields;
 - permitting the user to add data to a predefined text area based on the selected fields; and
 - generating a file note that contains the first set of fields, the second set of fields, and the data in the predefined text area.
 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of storing, in a claim database, the generated file note.
 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the data is short text, and where the predefined text area includes a table of variables and a corresponding field that receives short text for each variable.
 4. The method of claim 1, wherein permitting the user to add data further comprises the step of permitting the user to add free form notes in a file note area.
 5. The method of claim 4, further comprising the steps of:
 - combining the file note area and the predefined text area; and
 - storing, in a database, the combined area as a file note.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of obtaining from the user an indication of whether the file note is significant.

7 The method of claim 1, wherein the second set of fields includes a category and a subcategory.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the first set of fields include a suffix field and a participant field, wherein the suffix field indicates the type of insurance coverage, and wherein the participant field indicates a participant to the claim.

9. A method for generating a file note for an insurance claim folder, comprising:
providing on a display device a claim folder screen depicting attributes associated with a claim;
providing on a display device a file note screen depicting a criteria section, and a text entry section, wherein the text entry section is based on selected criteria in the criteria section;
receiving from a user information associated with the text entry section; and
generating the file note based on information received from the user.
10. The method of claim 9, wherein the criteria section contains a selected suffix and a selected participant, wherein the suffix and participant are selected by a user in the claim folder screen, and wherein the criteria section further contains a category and subcategory field containing categories and subcategories selectable by the handler.
11. The method of claim 10, wherein the categories and subcategories are based on the suffix, participant, or the claim.
12. The method of claim 9, wherein the file note screen further comprising a free form note section containing a text area.

13. A system for generating a file note for an insurance claim, comprising:
prefilling means for prefilling a first set of fields with information identifying a file note;
obtaining means for obtaining a selection of fields from a user for a second set of fields;
permitting means for permitting the user to add data to a predefined text area based on the
selected fields; and

generating means for generating a file note that contains the first set of fields, the second set
of fields, and the data in the predefined text area.

14. The system of claim 13, further comprising a claim database, wherein the database stores
the generated file note.

15. The system of claim 13, wherein the data is short text, and where the predefined text area
includes a table of variables and a corresponding field that receives short text for each variable.

16. The system of claim 13, wherein the permitting means further permits the user to add free
form notes in a file note area.

17. The system of claim 16, further comprising:
combining means for combining the file note area and the predefined text area; and
a database for storing the combined area as a file note.

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LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,
FARABOW, GARRETT,
& DUNNER, L.L.P.
1300 I STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005
202-408-4000

18. The system of claim 13, further comprising obtaining means for obtaining an indication of whether the file note is significant.

19. The system of claim 13, wherein the second set of fields includes a category and a subcategory.

20. The system of claim 13, wherein the first set of fields include a suffix field and a participant field, wherein the suffix field indicates the type of insurance coverage, and wherein the participant field indicates a participant to the claim.

21. The system of claim 13, further comprising display means for displaying a file note interface screen containing the first set of fields, the second set of fields, and the predefined text area.

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LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,
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& DUNNER, L.L.P.
1300 I STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005
202-408-4000